(d) whether it is also a fact that complaints were made for scarcity of essential commodities in the State by any group or organisation to the Central Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) The present monthly allotment of rice to Nagaland is 9,000 MTs, which is considered to be adequate to meet the PDS requirements of the State.

(b) and (c) The responsibility of enforcement and distribution of essential items is that of the concerned State Government. In view of this, all the State and U.T. Administrations have been advised by the Central Government, from time to time, to strengthen their monitoring arrangements and intensify their enforcement efforts, to ensure that these items reach the people for whom they are meant.

(d) In the North Eastern region including Nagaland, supply of essential commodities, at times, gets disrupted due to floods, bandhs, movement constraints etc. To tackle the peculiar problems of this area, close monitoring of Supplies of essential commodities is done by the Central as well State Govts., and corrective measures are taken whenever required.

No complaint regarding scarcity of essential commodities in the State has been received by the Department of Civil Supplies, from any Group or Organisation in the recent past.

Coca Cola in the country

1262. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state whether Government propose to allow "Coca-Cola" or any other soft drink with foreign collaboration into the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): No proposal for the manufacture of "Coca-Cola" is under consideration of the Government. The proposal of M/s Punjab Agro Industries Corporation for the manufacture of various processed foods and soft drink concentrates in collaboration with M/s Pepsico Incorporated of U.S.A. is still under the consideration of the Government.

Child labour in the country

1263. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state what is the number of child labour in the country, if so, what steps have been taken to prevent the same?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): According to the projections made by the Planning Commission the labour force in the age group 5-14 years in the country, as on 1st March, 1985 was 17.58 million. Government have taken the following measures to reduce and gradually eliminate child labour:—

(i) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 has been enacted to prohibit the employment of children below 14 years of age in certain hazardous employments.

(ii) A National Child Labour Policy has been announced which, *inter alia*, proposes to set-up projects to benefit child workers in areas of high child labour concentration. The projects among other things provide for withdrawal of child workers from hazardous employments and giving them the benefits of non-formal education, health care, vocational training, nutrition etc., and raising the income levels of their families.

(iii) Grants-in-aid are given to voluntary organisations to take up projects to benefit child workers.

Slow progress of urbanisation in the country

1264. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government took note of the Aid India Consortium's Comments that India's urbanisation has been very slow reflecting the dismal shift in employment patterns; and